

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2005/050167

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

60983/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
6096

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 408 479 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 14 April 2004 (2004-04-14) figures 5,7,15,16 paragraphs '0062!', '0070!', '0129!' - '0133! paragraphs '0170!' - '0179!	1-24
X	EP 0 541 295 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 12 May 1993 (1993-05-12) figures 1,4 page 3, line 18 - page 4, line 18 page 9, line 46 - line 47	25

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another claim or other special reasons (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

A document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 January 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/01/2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.O. Box 5818 Patentless 2
NL - 6200 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 840-8040, TX 81 851 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 840-8018

Authorized officer

Ladray, O

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2005/050167

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1408479	A	14-04-2004	JP 2004133138 A	30-04-2004
			US 2004125046 A1	01-07-2004
EP 0541295	A	12-05-1993	CA 2081643 A1	08-05-1993
			DE 69226689 D1	24-09-1998
			DE 69226689 T2	28-01-1999
			JP 5241551 A	21-09-1993